

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 3, 1998
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 4, 1998
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 1998

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2274

**Introduced by Assembly Members Leach, Campbell, and
Cunneen
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alquist, Battin, Bowler,
Granlund, Knox, Margett, and Morrissey)**

February 19, 1998

An act to add Article 5 (commencing with Section 48460) to Chapter 3 of Part 27 of the Education Code, relating to continuation education, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2274, as amended, Leach. Continuation education: study of funding formula.

Existing law establishes continuation schools and classes to provide an opportunity for pupils to complete high school graduation requirements, to provide a program of instruction that emphasizes occupational orientation or a work-study schedule, and to provide a program designed to meet the educational needs of each pupil, as a supplement to classroom instruction.

This bill would require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Office of the Legislative Analyst, to contract for an independent evaluation of the funding formula for continuation education, and on or before May 1, 1999, to report to the Legislature and the Governor with recommendations as to whether the state should modify the continuation high school funding formula, or whether the state should mandate or suggest an alternative model, or both. ~~The bill would prescribe the factors to be included in the evaluation.~~

The bill would require the Legislative Analyst to convene an advisory panel to assist the State Department of Education in developing a request for proposals and in evaluating any proposals submitted under the bill.

The bill would appropriate \$146,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Education, without regard to fiscal year, for expenditure for the contract required by the bill and the costs associated with convening the advisory panel.

The bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 5 (commencing with Section
2 48460) is added to Chapter 3 of Part 27 of the Education
3 Code, to read:

4
5 Article 5. Evaluation of Continuation Education
6 Funding
7

8 48460. (a) The State Department of Education, in
9 consultation with the Office of the Legislative Analyst,
10 shall contract for an independent evaluation of the
11 funding formula for continuation education, and on or
12 before May 1, 1999, shall report to the Legislature and the
13 Governor accordingly with recommendations as to
14 whether the state should modify the continuation high
15 school funding formula, or whether the state should

1 mandate or suggest an alternative model, or both. The
2 independent evaluation shall also evaluate and make
3 recommendations regarding the role of continuation
4 high schools in reducing high school dropout rates,
5 regarding any changes to the continuation high school
6 model as it is set forth in Sections 46170, 48430, and 51055,
7 and in meeting the goals of the program as defined in
8 Section 48430.

9 ~~(b) The evaluation of the continuation high school~~
10 ~~funding formula shall include, but shall not necessarily be~~
11 ~~limited to, all of the following factors:~~

12 ~~(1) The fiscal discrepancies among continuation high~~
13 ~~schools that receive additional funding under Section~~
14 ~~42243.7 and those schools that do not, as well as~~
15 ~~discrepancies among continuation schools receiving~~
16 ~~additional revenue from the school district's general~~
17 ~~fund.~~

18 ~~(2) Any discrepancy, if any, in program quality~~
19 ~~between continuation high schools receiving additional~~
20 ~~funding under Section 42243.7 and those schools who do~~
21 ~~not.~~

22 ~~(3) Any discrepancy, if any, in program quality~~
23 ~~between continuation high schools receiving additional~~
24 ~~funding and support from the school district general fund~~
25 ~~and those schools who do not.~~

26 ~~(4) An assessment of the efficacy of continuation high~~
27 ~~schools in dropout prevention, as well as a comparison in~~
28 ~~each school district of the pupil dropout rate and~~
29 ~~attendance rate in the continuation high school and in the~~
30 ~~comprehensive high school. If available, information shall~~
31 ~~be included about where pupils go once they drop out of~~
32 ~~the continuation school.~~

33 ~~(5) An assessment of the efficacy of continuation high~~
34 ~~schools in meeting the needs of pregnant minors and~~
35 ~~teenage parents.~~

36 ~~(6) If available, the pre- and post-continuation high~~
37 ~~school test scores of pupils attending continuation high~~
38 ~~schools and other pupil assessment tools that might~~
39 ~~indicate the effectiveness of the schools in addressing~~
40 ~~pupils' academic needs.~~

~~(7) An assessment of the characteristics of the continuation student and the strategies the continuation school has available to address the needs of the continuation student.~~

~~(8) The number of pupils in continuation high schools who are working. If available, an assessment of whether the flexibility in the continuation approach has resulted in an increase in the number of continuation pupils who are working, whether pupils attend continuation high schools for the shorter day because they have to work, and whether the schedules at continuation high schools provide greater flexibility than traditional programs for pupils who want to work.~~

~~(9) An assessment of the relationship between the length of the continuation school day and both fiscal impact and program quality.~~

~~(10) Recommendations for the ongoing data reporting requirement for the ongoing data reporting requirements for continuation high schools that will provide the state with the necessary information to monitor and improve continuation education services.~~

~~48461. The Legislative Analyst shall convene an advisory panel to assist the State Department of Education in developing a request for proposals and in evaluating any proposals submitted pursuant to Section 48460. Selection of a contractor shall be based on the recommendation of the advisory panel. The advisory panel shall include parents, teachers, administrators, members of the governing boards of school districts, and representatives of continuation high schools, the State Department of Education, and the Department of Finance. There shall be an equal number of parents, teachers, administrators, members of governing boards of school districts, and representatives of continuation high schools on the advisory panel. 48460. The advisory panel shall include a school district business official, a school district administrator with responsibilities for alternative education, a principal representing a continuation high school, a teacher representing a continuation high school,~~

1 *and representatives of the State Department of*
2 *Education and the Department of Finance.*

3 SEC. 2. There is hereby appropriated from the
4 General Fund to the State Department of Education,
5 without regard to fiscal year, the sum of one hundred
6 forty-six thousand dollars (\$146,000) for expenditure for
7 both of the following:

8 (a) The contract for an independent evaluation of the
9 continuation school funding formula required by Section
10 48460 of the Education Code.

11 (b) The costs associated with convening the advisory
12 panel required by Section 48461 of the Education Code.

13 ~~SEC. 3.—~~

14 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
15 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or
16 safety within the meaning of Article IV of the
17 Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts
18 constituting the necessity are:

19 So that the important independent evaluation of the
20 funding formula for continuation education required by
21 this act may take place as soon as possible, it is necessary
22 that this act take effect immediately.

